GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4301
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2002
SELLING OF CHILDREN ABROAD
JAYABEN B. THAKKAR

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that 3 lakh Indian children are sold abroad every year and such children are used as prostitutes, bonded labourers, beggers and drug peddlers etc.;

(b) if so, the efforts made by the Government to check this evil;

(c) whether the Government have prepared any plan for the rehabilitation of such children;

(d) if so, the details of the plan; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a) There is no such report before the Government.

(b),(c)&(d) Government have formulated a National Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking, which provides for various preventive, regulatory and rehabilitative measures for the protection of vulnerable children. Besides the Juvenile Justice Act, 2000 provides for the care, protection, treatment and rehabilitation of neglected or delinquent juveniles. At the regional level, SAARC Convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution has been signed to encourage cooperation amongst the member countries to prevent the incidence of trafficking.

Indian Missions abroad have been alerted about the incidence of child trafficking and immigration and border officials instructed to stop cross border trafficking.

(e) Does not arise.